

Appl. No. : 09/931,836  
Filed : August 16, 2001

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-21 (Cancelled)

22. (Previously presented) An isolated polypeptide having at least 80% amino acid sequence identity to:

(a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said isolated polypeptide has the ability to induce chondrocyte redifferentiation;

(b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, lacking its associated signal peptide, wherein said isolated polypeptide has the ability to induce chondrocyte redifferentiation; or

(c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203581, wherein said isolated polypeptide has the ability to induce chondrocyte redifferentiation.

23. (Previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 22 having at least 85% amino acid sequence identity to:

(a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said isolated polypeptide has the ability to induce chondrocyte redifferentiation;

(b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, lacking its associated signal peptide, wherein said isolated polypeptide has the ability to induce chondrocyte redifferentiation; or

(c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203581, wherein said isolated polypeptide has the ability to induce chondrocyte redifferentiation.

24. (Previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 22 having at least 90% amino acid sequence identity to:

(a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said isolated polypeptide has the ability to induce chondrocyte redifferentiation;

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(b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, lacking its associated signal peptide, wherein said isolated polypeptide has the ability to induce chondrocyte redifferentiation; or

(c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203581, wherein said isolated polypeptide has the ability to induce chondrocyte redifferentiation.

25. (Previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 22 having at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to:

(a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said isolated polypeptide has the ability to induce chondrocyte redifferentiation;

(b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, lacking its associated signal peptide, wherein said isolated polypeptide has the ability to induce chondrocyte redifferentiation; or

(c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203581, wherein said isolated polypeptide has the ability to induce chondrocyte redifferentiation.

26. (Previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 22 having at least 99% amino acid sequence identity to:

(a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said isolated polypeptide has the ability to induce chondrocyte redifferentiation;

(b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, lacking its associated signal peptide, wherein said isolated polypeptide has the ability to induce chondrocyte redifferentiation; or

(c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203581, wherein said isolated polypeptide has the ability to induce chondrocyte redifferentiation.

27-32 (Cancelled)

33. (Previously presented) A chimeric polypeptide comprising a polypeptide according to Claim 22 fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

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34. (Previously presented) The chimeric polypeptide of Claim 33, wherein said heterologous polypeptide is an epitope tag or an Fc region of an immunoglobulin.

35. (Previously presented) An isolated polypeptide comprising:

(a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;

(b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, lacking its associated signal peptide; or

(c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203581.

36. (Previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 35 comprising the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

37. (Previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 35 comprising the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, lacking its associated signal peptide.

38. (Previously presented) An isolated polypeptide comprising a fragment of a polypeptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said fragment comprises amino acids 137-167 of SEQ ID NO:2.

39. (Previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 38, wherein said fragment consists essentially of amino acids 137-167 of SEQ ID NO:2.

40. (Previously presented) An isolated polypeptide comprising a fragment of a polypeptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said fragment comprises amino acid sequences from SEQ ID NO:2 selected from the group consisting of amino acids 57-91, 60-94, 54-88, 81-114, 78-111, 63-96, 51-84, 45-78, 48-81, 33-65, 66-99, 42-75, 135-169, 202-221, and 235-244.

41. (New) An isolated polypeptide having at least 80% amino acid sequence identity to:

(a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;

(b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, lacking its associated signal peptide; or

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(c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203581

wherein said isolated polypeptide comprises a C1q domain signature sequence or a C1q domain protein sequence.

42. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 41, wherein said C1q domain signature comprises amino acids 137-167 of SEQ ID NO:2.

43. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 41, wherein said C1q domain protein sequence comprises an amino acid sequence from SEQ ID NO:2 selected from the group consisting of amino acids 57-91, 60-94, 54-88, 81-114, 78-111, 63-96, 51-84, 45-78, 48-81, 33-66, 66-99, 42-75, 135-169, 202-221, and 235-244.

44. (New) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 41, wherein said isolated polypeptide further comprises a sequence having homology to a subunit of collagen alpha 1(x).

45. (New) An isolated polypeptide having at least 80% amino acid sequence identity to:

(a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;

(b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, lacking its associated signal peptide; or

(c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203581

wherein said isolated polypeptide comprises a sequence having homology to a subunit of collagen alpha 1(x).

46. (New) An antibody or antibody fragment which specifically binds to a polypeptide according to any of Claims 22, 33, 35, 41 or 45.

47. (New) A composition comprising:

a peptide according to any of Claims 22, 33, 35, 41 or 45; and

a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

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